

Some notes on *Parisolabinae*

(Dermaptera)

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The genus *Pseudisolabis* Burr was erected in 1908 for the single New Zealand species *P. walkeri* Burr, 1908. Subsequently a few further species from India and Java were added (see Burr, 1947, *Proc. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* (B) 16: 60) and finally in 1947 Burr described a new species, *P. kosswigi*, from Turkey. As an appendix to Burr's paper the present writer discussed the genital armature of *P. kosswigi* and *P. burri* Borelli. At that time however the writer had not seen specimens of the generotype, *P. walkeri*. Through the kindness of the Director of the Auckland Museum, New Zealand, material of this species is now available and will be reported on more fully in a forthcoming paper on the Dermaptera of New Zealand. For the present it may be stated that *Pseudisolabis walkeri* is identical with *Parisolabis novae-zeelandiae* Verhoeff, 1904, and sinks as a synonym. *Parisolabis* Verhoeff, 1904, must therefore replace the generic name *Pseudisolabis* Burr, 1908. An examination of the genitalia of the New Zealand species has revealed that it is of a fundamentally different type from that recorded in 1947 for *P. kosswigi* and *P. burri* and it is clear that these species therefore cannot be regarded as congeneric with *Parisolabis novae-zeelandiae*. The following new genus *Isolaboides* is therefore erected for their reception.

Isolaboides gen. nov.

This genus is provisionally placed in the *Parisolabinae*. It shows a close external resemblance to the New Zealand genus *Parisolabis* but has a very different genital armature. The proparameres are asymmetrical, one being narrower than the other; on the narrow proparamere the penis-lobe is vestigial though the rudimentary virga may still be distinguished. The other penis-lobe is large and occupies a

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more or less central position; its virga is long and spirally coiled. The metaparameres are broad (at least on one side), acuminate pointed. The manubrium of the penultimate sternite is long, about the same length as the sternite itself. In *Parisolabis* the armature is typically labidurine, symmetrical, having narrow metaparameres, equally developed penis-lobes in which the virga is short, straight and provided with a well marked vesicle with spiral thickening. The manubrium of the penultimate sternite in *Parisolabis* is short, clearly much shorter than the sternite itself.

Head rather flat, slightly concave behind; frontal sutures obsolete; coronal suture moderately distinct; eyes small, barely longer than basal antennal segment. Antennae 18-22 segmented; third segment as long as fourth and fifth together. Pronotum transverse, truncate caudad; sides straight, diverging caudad. Entirely apterous; mesonotum without carinae. Glandular folds of tergites 3 and 4 absent. Ultimate abdominal tergite transverse, caudal margin straight or slightly concave. Pygidium conically produced in middle. Tarsi with metatarsus about as long as two following segments. Forceps simple, strongly curved in male. Manubrium of penultimate sternite long, about as long as sternite. Male genital armature with one penis-lobe vestigial, the other well developed with long spirally coiled virga.

Generotype: *Pseudisolabis kosswigi* Burr, 1947, from Turkey. In addition to its generotype *Isolaboides* also includes the new species described below as *I. tuberculata* and *Pseudisolabis burri* Borelli, 1909, from India. It is possible that *Pseudisolabis immsi* Burr, 1913, from India, and *P. renschi* Günther, 1932, from Java, may also belong to this genus but so far no material has been available for study. The following key will distinguish the males of the three species known to the writer.

- 1 (2). Penultimate sternite with a large postmedian process (fig. 1). Tergites 5 to 7 strongly carinate laterad. Abdominal puncturation stronger. Ultimate tergite with a pair of well marked conical tubercles. Length ♂ ♀, 12-13 mms. Lebanon *I. tuberculata* sp. nov.
- 2 (1). Penultimate sternite simple. Tergites non-carinate laterad.
- 3 (4). Ultimate tergite with a pair of small, closely approximated median tubercles. Large species, 18-19 mms. long. Turkey *I. kosswigi* (Burr) COMB. NOV.
- 4 (3). Ultimate tergite simple. Small species, about 10 mms. long. India. *I. burri* (Borelli) COMB. NOV.

I. tuberculata sp. nov. (Figs. 1, 2).

Male. Colour piceous; antennae, mouthparts, legs, forceps, and sides of pronotum, fuscous. Head slightly transverse (measured from

clypeofrontal suture); genae much longer than eyes; surface micro-reticulate, with very few widely scattered punctures. Antennae 18-segmented; fourth to sixth segments each shorter than seventh; seventh and eighth subequal; ninth onwards subequal in length. Pronotum micro-reticulate; pro- and metazona not clearly demarcated; median sulcus of former clearly marked; lateral areas broad. Meso- and

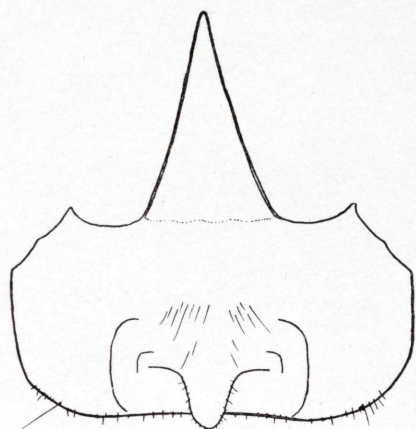


Fig. 1.—Penultimate sternite and manubrium of *Isolaboides tuberculata* sp. nov. ♂.

metanotum punctate and pubescent, former with well marked median line. Abdomen gradually expanded to tergite 5 thence contracted to tergite 8; tergites 8 to 10 approximately of equal width; puncturation moderately strong; pubescence almost absent; margins of tergites 2 to 6 with widely spaced small tubercles; sides of tergites 5 to 7 with strong longitudinal carinae. Ultimate tergite transverse with longitudinal median sulcus on either side of which are well marked conical tubercles. Forceps widely separated at base, trigonal, soon becoming subcylindrical, strongly curved, simple. Penultimate sternite (fig. 1) subrugose, punctate, pubescent; median portion depressed and produced mesad into a prominent process which just exceeds level of caudal margin. Legs moderately long; femora moderately incrassate, especially of cephalic pair; intermediate tibiae with a pair of strong bristles on

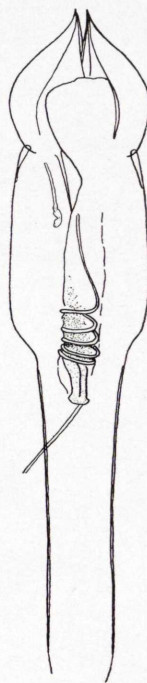


Fig. 2.—Male genital armature of *Isolaboides tuberculata* sp. nov.

upper side near apex; tarsal claws with a very small proximal tooth. Genital armature (fig. 2). Length, incl. forceps 12 mms.

Female. Closely resembles male. Forceps simple, more or less straight, subcylindrical, tapering. Length 13 mms.

Types. Lebanon: Les Cedres, 28. ix. (Coiffart). Holotype male, allotype female in Paris Museum; paratype male in coll. Hincks.